

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:BGSCARLIS/BJR

APPROVED BY P - MR. SISCO

EUR - MR. LAINGEN

S/S :FORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096947

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, GR, TU

SUBJECT:GREEK AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON UNDER SECRETARY SISCO

1. GREEK AMBASSADOR ALEXANDRAKIS CALLED APRIL 24 ON UNDER SECRETARY SISCO TO DISCUSS US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO GREECE (REPORTED BY SEPTTEL) AND HARTMAN'S ANKARA VISIT. ALEXANDRA-KISALSO RAISED THE ISSUE OF VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER'S REMARKS.

2. IN BRIEFING THE GREEK AMBASSADOR, MR. SISCO FIRST POINTED TO THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF THE ARMS EMBARGO ON THE CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS. SISCO SAID MR. HARTMAN WOULD BE CONVEYING TO GREEK OFFICIALS THE TURKISH DESIRE TO START PRODUCTIVE NEGOTIATIONS AND ENTER INTO A DIRECT DIALOGUE WITH ATHENS. MR. HARTMAN FOUND, HOWEVER, NO NEW SUBSTANTIVE IDEAS IN ANKARA, BUT THE TURKS SEEMED ANXIOUS TO BEGIN SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS IN VIENNA. MR. HARTMAN ALSO FOUND CAGLAYANGIL PREPARED TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS ON AEGEAN ISSUES SUCH
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AS THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AND THE MILITARIZATION OF GREEK ISLANDS. MR. SISCO ADDED THAT, SINCE HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED HARTMAN'S REPORT OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH GREEK

OFFICIALS, HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH ALEXANDRAKIS AGAIN TO BRIEF HIM FURTHER.

3. IN RESPONSE TO ALEXANDRAKIS' REFERENCE TO VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER'S RECENT REMARKS ON GREECE AND CYPRUS, UNDER SECRETARY SISCO COMMENTED THAT THE REMARKS WERE UNFORTUNATELY TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT AND MISINTERPRETED, THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT HAS THE HIGHEST REGARD FOR CARAMANLIS, AND THAT HE FULLY SUPPORTS THE PRESIDENT'S AND SECRETARY'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT ON CYPRUS. MR. SISCO SAID HE KNEW THE VICE PRESIDENT WANTED TO CONVEY HIS DEEP RESPECT AND ADMIRATION FOR THE GREEK GOVERNMENT, THE GREEK PEOPLE, AND THE PRIME MINISTER.

4. BEFORE DEPARTING, ALEXANDRAKIS ASKED IF THERE HAD BEEN ANY TURKISH "HINTS" ON THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH IN ISTANBUL. MR. SISCO REPLIED THAT HE HAD HEARD NOTHING ON THAT ISSUE FOR SOME TIME. KISSINGER

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